

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

**BERRIEN COUNTY**

**901 Port Street, St. Joseph, Michigan**

TELEPHONE 983-6501

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND  
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COOPERATING

April 25, 1966

Dr. John A. Hannah  
President  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Dear Dr. Hannah:

I enjoyed your presentation Friday night. I am sure that your presence attracted the nice crowd that was present at the meeting.

I thought you might be interested in the article which appeared in the paper on Saturday. I am not sure I agree with what the headlines say but newspaper people have a way of making headlines sound the way they please.

Sincerely,

*Frank Madaski*

Frank Madaski  
County Extension  
Agriculture Agent

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Enclosure - 1

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT





**ANNIVERSARY PLAQUE:** Dr. John Hannah (right), head of Michigan State university, receives plaque from Berrien county alumni marking his 25 years as MSU president. Presenting it is Atty. John Spelman of St. Joseph, a junior at MSU when Hannah took office in 1941. (Staff photo).



## ST. JOE SPEECH

# Hannah Says So What To Charge MSU Spied

By JERRY KRIEGER  
County-Farm Editor

"If they were, what of it?" Michigan State University President John A. Hannah told Berrien county alumni, referring to a liberal magazine's charges that MSU had CIA agents in its staff of a teaching mission in Viet Nam eight or nine years ago.

He addressed the Berrien MSU Alumni association at the Whitcomb hotel in St. Joseph last night, fresh from a nationwide press, radio and TV appearance at East Lansing.

There he had given a review of the university's conduct of a training program for South Vietnamese police administrators and other civil servant skills from 1955 to 1959.

Again last night he denied that the university knew any of the staff it put in Viet Nam were intelligence agents, and that anything wrong had been done. "We were proud of what we did, and we thought we did a good job."

To reporters before the dinner that attracted some 125 persons, Dr. Hannah said the people "behind the Ramparts article" are very critical of the present U.S. position in Viet Nam.

"Anything that can encourage people to think the U.S. position is wrong is encouraged by these critics," he said of the article.

### GIVEN PLAQUE

The MSU head was honored by the alumni group with a plaque presented in observance of his 25th anniversary as president of the big institution. John Spelman, a St. Joseph attorney who was a junior in the school when Hannah was appointed to head MSU in 1941, made the presentation.

The alumni association, led by Truman Schrag of St. Joseph, also paid a tribute to Dr.

Harold Gray, who relinquished the job as director of the MSU Continuing Education center in Benton Harbor just a week ago for an on-campus assignment. A plaque commending Gray's ten years of work here was presented him by Al Bytwork of St. Joseph.

Although the occasion took note of his silver anniversary as president, Hannah did not dwell on past growth or achievements of the university during his regime. Except for a condensed report of his rebuttal to the spy flap, he spoke of the course and the job ahead for MSU and for education in general.

### DEFENDS SIZE

He said he would not predict how much larger MSU might grow in the years ahead, but stated he didn't feel it should continue to expand at a rate of two to three thousand more students ever year, as it has in recent years.

He predicted the growing network of community colleges in the state would absorb much of the buildup of college students in the years ahead.

Hannah defended the giant size of the school — some 35,500 students on the main campus alone — and said he was convinced "you can do a better job of educating in a big school than in the small school."

*Remparts*

April 27, 1966

Dear Frank:

Thank you very much for yours of the 25th with the copy of the News-Palladium.

The report of what I said and what I think I said are not the same, but I have learned from experience that there is not much you can do about it.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

President

Mr. Frank Madaski  
County Extension Agent, Berrien County  
901 Port Street  
St. Joseph, Michigan

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